GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7337
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2002
REORGANISATION OF MINISTRIES
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of privatisation, decontrol and computerisation, the work in the Ministries/Departments have considerably decreased;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to reorganise the Departments/Ministries to reduce their number to cut down expenditure;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND M OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE. (SMT.VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a): Information in this regard is not centrally available.

(b),(c)&(d): Restructuring of the Ministries and Departments is an ongoing exercise. The Rules for the Allocation of Business of the Government are made by the President under Clause (3) of Article 77 of the Constitution for convenient transaction of business of the Government. The business to be transacted in various Ministries and Departments is specified in the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961. The number of Ministries/Departments at a given point of time is thus based on the administrative convenience of the Government.

The Government has been seized to the need to reduce the expenditure on the establishment and some of the steps taken in the recent past include:

(i) The Department of Personnel and Training has issued instructions on 16 May, 2001 to limit the direct recruitment to one-third of the direct recruitment vacancies arising in a year subject to a further ceiling that this does not exceed 1 per cent of the total sanctioned strength of the Ministry/Department.

(ii) The Expenditure Reforms Commission set up by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) has submitted 10 Reports containing its recommendations on rightsizing/restructuring the various Ministries/Departments. The respective Ministries/Departments have been requested to take follow up action on the Commission`s recommendations. On the basis of the Commission`s recommendations, approximately 17,200 posts have so far been abolished/identified for abolition.

(iii) The Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) has issued instructions in 1999 to all the Ministries/Departments etc. requesting them, inter alia, to undertake a review of all the posts which were lying vacant in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. These instructions further envisage that till the review is completed, no vacant post will be filled up, except with the approval of the Ministry of Finance.